Application Serial No.: 10/517,517 Att'y Dkt: 2732-151

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

 (Currently amended) A method for processing bank notes present as separate deposits, characterized in that comprising:

<u>detecting information associated with each deposit, including</u> at least one of the beginning or end of each deposit, (1 to 4) is ascertained,

feeding the bank notes of each deposit (1 to 4) are fed into a separate carrier, each carrier having a unique marking, (71 to 74), and

detecting the unique marking of each carrier,

joining the information associated with each deposit with the detected marking of each respective carrier,

transporting each carrier (71 to 74) transports the bank notes of one deposit (1 to 4) to processing to a bank note processing machine, and

detecting the unique marking of each carrier for processing of the respective deposit by the bank note processing machine.

- (Canceled).
- 3. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that a deposit (±+6+4) is subdivided into subunits by feeding at least one separation card-(TK), the separation card (TK) being recognized during processing of the bank notes so that the subunits of a deposit (±+6+4) can be brought to account.
- 4. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the deposits (1-to-4) are formed by one or more bundles of bank notes each having a band, the bands being removed from the bundles before the bank notes of the bundles are fed into the particular carrier-(71-to-74).

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5. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 4, characterized in that the bands are stored in the order in which they appear in at least one of the deposits (1-to-4)-or subunits, the bands are removed from storage after successful processing of the associated bank notes, and the bands are provided for at least one of a check or investigation after ascertainment of deviations in at least one of the deposits or subunits.

- 6. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 4, characterized in that an image of each band is recorded and stored.
- (Currently amended) A method according to claim 3, characterized in that deviations
 occurring in subunits of a deposit (1-to-4) are balanced against each other.
- (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the deposits of a certain depositor are treated according to specifications coming from the depositor, the specifications being derived from the information (1).
- (Currently amended) An apparatus for processing bank notes present as separate deposits, comprising: by means of
- a bank note processing machine (50-to-57)-having a singler (50), a transport system (51), a checking device (52), a delivery device (53) and a control device, (57), whereby
- a transport device (60) transports for transporting carriers (71 to 74) containing the deposits (1 to 4) to the singler, <u>each carrier having a unique marking</u>, (50), characterized by
 - a first sensor and a second sensor for detecting the unique marking of each carrier,
- a <u>third</u> sensor (62) for detecting <u>information associated with each deposit, including</u> at least one of the beginning or end of each deposit, (1 to 4), <u>and</u>
- a filling position at which the bank notes of each deposit (1 to 4) are fed into a separate carrier (71 to 74), each carrier (71 to 74) transporting the bank notes of one deposit to the singler (50) for processing,
- wherein the information associated with each deposit, detected by the third sensor, is joined with the unique marking of each respective carrier detected by the first sensor, and
- wherein the unique marking of each carrier, detected by the second sensor, is used for processing of the respective deposit by the bank note processing machine.

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10-11. (Canceled).

12. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 9, characterized in that separation cards (TK)-are to be fed at the filling position for subdividing the deposits (1-to-4), the separation cards (TK)-being recognized by the checking device (52)-so that an accounting for the bank notes of the deposits (1-to-4)-can be subdivided.

- 13. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 9, characterized in that the deposits (1 to 4) are formed by one or more bundles of bank notes each having a band, the bands being removed from the bundles at the filling position before the bank notes of the bundles are fed into the particular carrier (71 to 74).
- 14. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 13, characterized in that a storage device (63)-stores the bands in the order in which they appear in at least one of the deposits (1-to-4)-or subunits, the storage device (63)-removes (65)-the bands after successful processing of the associated bank notes for disposal-(67), and the storage device (63)-provides bands after faulty processing of at least one of the deposits or subunits for at least one of a check or investigation-(66).
- 15. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 13, characterized in that the third_sensor (62)-produces an image of each band, said image being stored in the control device (57).
- 16. (New) An apparatus for processing bank notes present as separate deposits, comprising:

a bank note processing machine having a singler, a transport system, a checking device, a delivery device and a control device,

a transport device for transporting carriers containing the deposits to the singler,

a sensor for detecting at least one of the beginning or end of each deposit, and

a filling position at which the bank notes of each deposit are fed into a separate carrier, each carrier transporting the bank notes of one deposit to the singler for processing.